



# DESCRIPTIVE STUDY TO ASSESS THE LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE OF FAMILIES REGARDING PREVENTIVE MEASURES OF MALARIA IN URBAN COMMUNITY AREA VARANASI

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## ABSTRACT

Malaria is one of the major public health problems in developing countries. Recent estimate indicate that 300 to 500 million clinical cases and 1.5 to 2.7 million deaths occur due to it. Malaria is a life threatening disease caused by parasite of plasmodium namely plasmodium falciparum, plasmodium vivax, and plasmodium malaria and plasmodium ovale. Preventive measures can reduce the breeding of parasite vector. The enhancement of nursing students knowledge regarding malaria prevention can reduced the malaria effects in community through health education during clinical postings. A descriptive study was conducted in urban community. The Participants are selected randomly. The sample size is 100. Where the 10% participants have the good knowledge, 50% have the average knowledge and remaining 40% have the poor knowledge regarding malaria prevention. A significant association was found between demographic variables and families' knowledge.

**KEYWORDS:** Knowledge, Malaria, Prevention, Family.

## INTRODUCTION:

Among the many health problem in India is communicable diseases are the major health problems which are the transmitted one to another through direct and indirect contact with causative agent. The diseases which are indirectly transmitted by mosquito are dengue, malaria and chikunguniya. Malaria is one of the common diseases of community. Malaria is transmitted through the bite of infected female mosquito anopheles. The human host, the environment and the climate condition that may affect the abundance and survival of mosquitoes such as, rain-fall patterns, temperature and humidity with the peak during and just after rainy season.

The disease characterised by fever, chills, rigor, headache, vomiting, fatigue. These symptoms will appear seven days or more after the infective mosquito bite. It is diagnosed by blood smear test and can be treated with antimalarial drugs.

## OBJECTIVES:

1. To assess the level of knowledge of families regarding preventive measures of malaria.
2. To find out the association between level of knowledge with selected demographic variables.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

Research design was consisted a descriptive research design approach to assess the knowledge regarding preventive measures of malaria. The sample size is 100 family of urban community. The samples were selected by using non-probability, purposive sampling technique.

The development of tools involved steps of test construction i.e. preparing the blue print, selection of items. Content validity of questionnaire was done and modifications were done according to the suggestion given by experts. Pre testing and reliability of tools were done. The tools were found to be reliable.

The data were collected by using structural knowledge questionnaire. The structural questionnaire consisting of two sections; Section I: demographic data and Section II: consisted of 12 knowledge questionnaire with maximum score of 12.

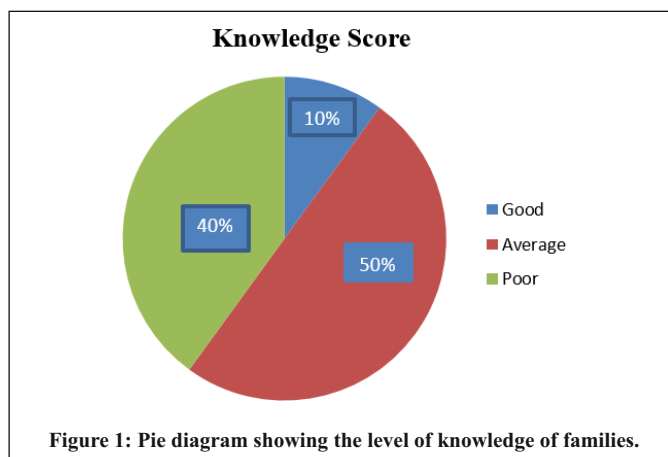
## RESULT:

The analysis of data was based on the objectives and hypothesis. Descriptive statistics were used to mean, frequency and percentage with tabular presentation of data.

Chi square test was used to test the hypothesis and significance difference in the level of knowledge of students regarding preventive measures of malaria.

## Objective 1:

Among 100 respondents 10% were having good knowledge, 50% having average and remaining 40% having poor knowledge.



## Objective 2:

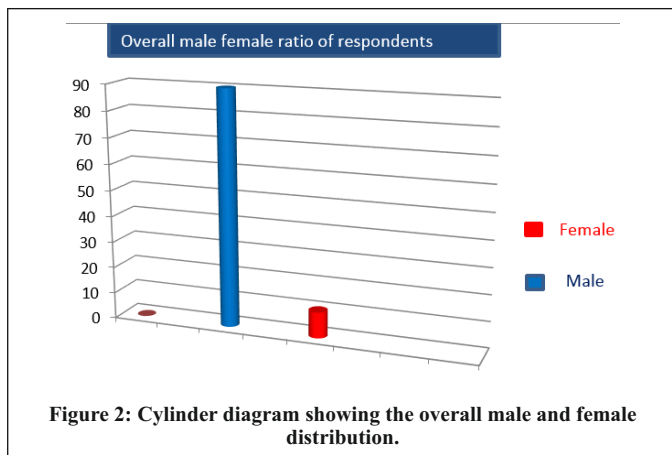
Association between level of knowledge of families with selected demographic variables.

**Table 1: Frequency and knowledge distribution of sample according to socio-demographical variables.**

Distribution of demographic variables, N= 100

S. No.	Demographic variables	Option	Number	Percentage
1	Age	10-20 years	20	20%
		21-30 years	40	40%
		31-40 years	20	20%
		≥41 years	20	20%
2	Gender	Male	90	90%
		Female	10	10%
3	Religion	Hindu	90	90%
		Muslim	10	10%
		Christian	0	0%
		Other	0	0%
4	Types of family	Joint	90	90%
		Nuclear	10	10%
5	Educational status	High school	40	40%
		Intermediate	20	20%
		Graduate	40	40%
		Illiterate	0	0%
6	Marital status	Married	70	70%
		Unmarried	30	30%

7	Monthly income	3000-5000 Rs.	30	30%
		5001-10000 Rs.	50	50%
		10001-20000 Rs.	0	0%
		Above 20000 Rs.	20	20%
8	Sources of information	News paper	0	0%
		Radio	0	0%
		Television	30	30%
		All of the above	70	70%



### DISCUSSION:

The major findings of the study are discussed in detail by researchers. The aim of this study was to assess the knowledge of community peoples regarding prevention of malaria. Malaria is a major cause of high mortality rate in India.

### SECTION-I

#### Demographic Variables:

In Age criteria, 20% respondent were between the age group of 10-20 years, 40% were between 21-30 years age group, 20% were between 31-40 year age group and rest 20% were above 41 years age group.

In gender criteria, the majority 90% of male respondents and the remaining 10% of the study participants were to female.

The religious distribution depicts that majority 90% of the study participants were Hindus, 10% Muslims, 0% Christians and remaining 0% belonged to other religions.

In this study 90% families were joint family and 10% were nuclear families.

As per the educational distribution of the study participants only 20% were having Intermediate education, 40% Graduate, 40% high school and 0% was illiterate participants.

In this study 70% participants were married and 30% were unmarried.

The 30% study participants were between the 3000-5000 Rs monthly income, 50% were between the 5001-10000 Rs, 0% was between 10001-20000 Rs and 20% were above 20000 Rs monthly income.

The information source distribution depicts that 30% of study participants gets information from television, 70% participants getting the previous knowledge through newspaper, radio and television.

### SECTION-II

#### Knowledge Regarding Preventive Measures of Malaria:

The result shows that 10% of the samples were having Good knowledge, 40% Average knowledge and remaining 50% had poor knowledge regarding malaria prevention.

### CONCLUSION:

The researchers have conducted a study on preventive measures of malaria. The result showed that 50% were having poor knowledge, 10% good knowledge and 40% average level of knowledge regarding prevention of malaria. This concludes that more education and awareness is needed among the nursing students regarding preventive measures of malaria.

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